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RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.4(D)

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-15	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00
	CIAE-00	SJK-01	COR-01	CTME-00	C-01	DODE-00	DS-00
	FBO-01	HA-09	H-01	IMMC-01	INRE-00	INR-01	L-03
	ADS-00	M-01	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OCS-06	OMB-01	OPR-01
	PA-01	PM-01	PRS-01	P-01	RP-10	SCT-03	SNP-01
	SP-01	SR-01	SSC-01	SSO-00	SS-01	TRSE-00	T-01
	USIE-00	USSS-00	/072W				

-----1A8ACC 140145Z /64

O 132221Z MAR 92 (CCY FOR DISTRIBUTION)

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9119

INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 CARACAS 02856

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (DISTRIBUTION)

E.O. 123"6: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PINR, VE

SUBJECT: COUP LEADERS' LETTER TO ZULIA GOVERNOR ALVAREZ

- PAZ

REF: CARACAS 02757

1. (C) ON MARCH 10 EL NACIONAL PUBLISHED A LETTER  
(DATED FEBRUARY 12) FROM THE LEADERS OF THE ATTEMPTED  
COUP OF FEBRUARY 4 TO ZULIA GOVERNOR OSWALDO ALVAREZ

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PAZ

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DR. OSWALDO ALVAREZ PAZ  
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ZULIA

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
REVIEW AUTHORITY: OSCAR J OLSON  
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL REASON: 1.4(D)  
DECLASSIFY AFTER: 12 MAR 2017  
DATE/CASE ID: 08 AUG 2006 200503206

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WE GREET YOU WITH AFFECTION AND SOLIDARITY FROM OUR JAIL THAT IS DIGNIFIED AND ELEVATED BY OUR IDEALISM AND BY OUR LOVE FOR THE TRUE VENEZUELA. I WANT TO REPEAT TO YOU SOME OF THE THINGS I TOLD YOU THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY AR AS TO THE MEANING OF THAT GESTURE:

(1) THE SITUATION OF MISERY, OF REPRESSION, OF THE EXERCISE OF POWER THAT EXCLUDES AND IS ANTI-HUMAN, CONTINUES IN OUR COUNTRY. LOOK AT THE CONCRETE REALITY AND NOT AT THE ECONOMIC INDICATORS THAT SHOW THE OUTSIDE WORLD AN IMAGE THAT WE ARE NOT...LOOK AROUND YOU AND SEE THE ONGOING TRAGIC PARTY CALLED DEMOCRACY. LISTEN TO THE CHURCH (LEADERS) COMMITTED TO THE PEOPLE, TO DR. CALDERA, AND TO THE PEOPLE THEMSELVES.

(2) YOU KNOW MORE THAN ANYBODY ELSE OUR IDEA FOR BROADENING PARTICIPATION (TO ALLOW FOR) NEW AVENUES THAT WILL DIGNIFY OUR PEOPLE, THAT WILL PLACE THEIR DESTINY IN THEIR OWN HANDS, (RESULTING IN) A TRULY PARTICIPATIVE  
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DEMOCRACY. HOW IS IT POSSIBLE TO EQUATE OUR POSITION WITH THAT OF MILITARISM AND DICTATORSHIP?

(3) THEY HAVE LABELLED US MADMEN AND THIS WE ACCEPTED: WE WANT TO INFECT OUR LEADERS, OUR PUBLIC FIGURES WITH THIS MADNESS AND RISK-TAKING. (IT IS A) MADNESS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF IDEALISM (AND) THE REJECTION OF MEDIOCRITY. IT IS (THE MADNESS OF) JESUS CHRIST (AND) OF SIMON RODRIQUEZ (WE INVITE YOU TO READ THE SIMPLE TEACHINGS OF THE TEACHER OF BOLIVAR "WE INVENT OR WE ERR.") THIS MADNESS OF LOVE FOR THE COUNTRY AND FOR THE PEOPLE SO DESPISED AND RIDICULED BY MANIPULATORS, (AND) OF WHICH THE CARRIBEAN POET SILVIO RODRIGUEZ SINGS...

(4) IN A SITUATION OF OPPORTUNITY, WHEN ALL THE ORDER AND PREPARATION OF TRAINING IS ORIENTED TOWARDS THE INTERNAL ENEMY (READ STUDENTS, WORKERS, TEACHERS AND THE PROTESTING ELDERLY), WE DECIDED BETWEEN REMAINING SILENT AND COWARDLY, AND THE STIPENDS AND RIBBONS SOAKED IN POPULAR BLOOD, TO LAUNCH A CRY OF REBELLIOUSNESS TO A LEADERSHIP THAT IS DEAF AND BLIND, (NOTWITHSTANDING) THE RISK TO OUR LIVES AND PAIN TO OUR FAMILIES, (THAT WILL) PROMOTE A TRULY DEMOCRATIC AND PARTICIPATORY DEMOCRACY.

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(5) WE DO NOT KNOW MUCH ABOUT DICTATORSHIPS -- ONLY  
(OUR) DREAMS OF LIBERTY. WE DO NOT WANT TO RETURN TO  
THE DARK NIGHTS OF REPRESSION BUT AT THIS VERY MOMENT IN  
THE POOR NEIGHBORHOODS (THE PEOPLE) LIVE THE DAILY  
(EXPERIENCE OF) IMPOTENCY IN FRONT OF STUPID AND  
ARROGANT POLICE OFFICERS INCAPABLE OF DEFININING  
(DIFFERENT) BEHAVIORS, AND (WHO THUS) TREAT EVERYONE AS  
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CRIMINALS. (WE WERE ABLE FOR ONE DAY TO SAVE THE  
POPULAR NEIGHBORHOODS OF MARACAIBO FROM THESE PATROLS OF  
REPRESSION.)

(6) EVERYTHING APPARENTLY SEEMS TO BE AS USUAL, LIKE  
THE PARTY OF WHICH JOAN MANUEL SERRAT SINGS ABOUT,  
EXCEPT THAT IN (OUR) JAIL THERE (CONTINUES) THE DREAM OF  
HOPE, (BASED ON) A CRY OF REBELLION BY YOUNG MILITARY  
MEN THAT IN A (GIVEN MOMENT) HAD THE COURAGE TO CONFRONT

NOTE BY DO/CC: (###) OMISSION IN PARA 1. CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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ACTION ARA-01

INFO	LOG-00	ACDA-15	AID-01	AMAD-01	A-01	CA-02	CCO-00
	CIAE-00	SJK-01	CTME-00	C-01	DODE-00	DS-00	FBO-01
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	SR-01	SSC-01	SSO-00	SS-01	TRSE-00	T-01	USIE-00

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USSS-00 /071W

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9120  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
USCINCSO QUARRY HEIGHTS PM

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 CARACAS 02856

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR  
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, PINR, VE  
SUBJECT: COUP LEADERS' LETTER TO ZULIA GOVERNOR ALVAREZ  
THE LIES AND LOFTY DECEIT. YOU WITNESSED THIS AND YOU  
SHOULD REMEMBER THIS WHEN YOU SEE (POLITICIANS) VOW  
THEIR ADHERENCE TO "DEMOCRATIC FIDELITY" (AS WELL AS)  
WHEN YOU GO TO THE PARTIES OF HIGH OFFICIALS TELLING YOU  
HOW THEY HAVE "THRASHED" THE DEMONSTRATIONS OF  
"DISADAPTED" (PEOPLE). (DURING THESE MOMENTS YOU WILL  
FIND OUR SHADOWS REMINDING YOU TO SEARCH FOR TRUTH, FOR  
A PARTICIPATING DEMOCRACY, FOR A REAL APPROCHEMENT WITH  
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A PAINED AND DECEIVED POPULATION. BE COURAGEOUS IN  
PROPOSING MEASURES FOR THE FUTURE. SET FREE YOUR  
CHRISTIAN (BELIEF) AND PATRIOTISM AT THIS HISTORIC  
MOMENT. BECOME PART OF THE MEN THAT LOOK TO THE FUTURE  
WITH DIGNITY, LOVE AND DISINTEREST FOR THEMSELVES. THIS  
IS URGENT AND TIME IS SHORT. IN THIS WAY, WE WILL NOT  
LOSE OUR SACRIFICE AND OUR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 4 WOULD  
BE WORTH IT, AND IT CAN BE SURMISED (THED) THAT "IT WAS  
WRITTEN" BY THE LORD.

(YOUR) FRIENDS

(SIGNED) COMMANDERS FRANCISCO ARIAS, HUGO CHAVEZ, JESUS  
URDANETA, YOEL ACOSTA, MIGUEL ORTIZ CARDENAS.

END TEXT

3. (U) ACCORDING TO AN INTERVIEW ALSO PUBLISHED ON  
MARCH 10, THE GOVERNOR STATED THAT "THIS GROUP OF  
COMMANDERS DETAINED IN THE SAN CARLOS BARRACKS (SEEMS  
TO) HAVE INTERPRETED AN IMPORTANT SEGMENT OF THE  
COUNTRY." AS FOR THE CONTENTS OF THE LETTER, THE

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GOVERNNR ADDED THAT IT CONTAINED SOME POINTS "WORTH ANALYZING". HE ALSO STATED THAT IF THE COUNTRY DOES DECIDE TO RENOVATE ITS DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM, THEN "IT COULD BE USEFUL FOR DEMOCRACY TO GAIN (THE OPINIONS OF THOSE) IMPRISONED THERE" SINCE "BY INCORPORATING (DIFFERENT) VOICES" DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED.

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